

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| Applicant | : Makoto HOSOYA | Group Art Unit | : Not Yet Assigned |
| Appl. No. | : 10/597,684 (National Stage of PCT/JP2005/001612) | Examiner | : Not Yet Assigned |
| I.A. Filed | : February 3, 2005 | Confirmation No. | : 4840 |
| For | : WATER-PURIFYING SOLID MATERIAL MADE OF A NATURAL RAW MATERIAL CONTAINING POLYSACCHARIDES AS PRINCIPAL COMPONENTS, AND WATER-PURIFYING METHOD USING THE SAME | | |

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop AMENDMENT
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §§1.56 and 1.97-1.98,
Applicant hereby brings to the attention of the Examiner the following information.

The following documents were cited in an International Search Report with
respect to International Patent Application No. PCT/JP2005/001612, of which the
present application is the U.S. National Stage Application. A copy of the International
Search Report (in English and Japanese) was filed concurrently with the present
application and should thus have already been brought to the attention of the Examiner.

- (1) WO 01/70637 A1, along with patent family member U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0084376 to MATSUMURA et al., which was published on May 6, 2004;
- (2) JP 2000-153293 A, together with an English language Abstract of the same;
- (3) JP 11-114593 A, together with an English language Abstract of the same;
- (4) JP 2002-273471 A, together with an English language Abstract of the same;
- (5) JP 2000-254687 A, together with an English language Abstract of the same; and
- (6) JP 2001-096130 A, together with an English language Abstract of the same.

The relevance of the documents cited in the International Search Report, as ascertained with respect to the international claims by the International Examiner, is set forth in the International Search Report.

Applicant further brings to the attention of the Examiner the following documents:

- (7) JP 9-234493 A, together with an English language Abstract of the same. Applicant notes that this document is cited beginning at page 3 of the specification of the above-captioned application; and
- (8) JP 2001-269699 A, together with an English language Abstract of the same. Applicant notes that this document is cited beginning at page 3 of the specification of the above-captioned application. Applicant further

notes that this document of a family member of above-noted document (1).

Applicant further submits a copy of a Notification of Transmittal of Copies of Translation of the International Preliminary Report on Patentability (including Forms PCT/IB/338, PCT/IB/373 and PCT/ISA/237) with respect to International Patent Application No. PCT/JP2005/001612, of which the present application is the U.S. National Stage Application. Above-note documents (1) – (4) were cited in the International Preliminary Report on Patentability.

The relevance of the documents cited in the International Preliminary Report on Patentability, as ascertained by the International Examiner, is set forth in the International Preliminary Report on Patentability.

Further to 37 C.F.R. §1.98 (a)(2)(ii), copies of the U.S. patent application publication is not enclosed herewith. However, if any copy is needed, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

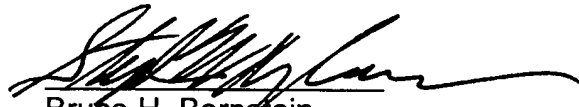
Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the above material and cite the same. Copies of the above-noted foreign and international documents, including the noted English language Abstracts, are attached hereto, and all of the documents are listed on an attached Form PTO-1449. The Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached Form and to return a copy of the completed Form to Applicants with the next official communication in the present application.

Applicant notes that an Office Action on the merits has not issued in the present application, and thus no fee is believed necessary to ensure consideration of the

submitted material. However, if an Office Action on the merits has issued and is crossing this statement in the mail, the undersigned hereby authorizes the charging of any fee necessary for the consideration of this statement, including any payment under 37 C.F.R. §1.17 (p), to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
Makoto HOSOYA



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{P30361 00084357.DOC}

FORM PTO-1449

U.S. Department of Commerce
Patent and Trademark OfficeAtty. Dock No.
P30361Application No.
10/597,681INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
BY APPLICANT
(Use several sheets if necessary)Applicant
Makoto HOSOYAFiling Date
I.A. Filed February 3, 2005Group
Not Yet Assigned

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER INITIAL | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE |
|---------------------|--------|-----------------|----------|------------------|-------|----------|-------------------------------|
| | 2004 / | 0 0 8 4 3 7 6 | 05/06/04 | MATSUMURA et al. | | | |
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION YES NO |
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| | 0 | 1 / 7 0 6 3 7 | 09/27/01 | W.I.P.O. | | | |
| | 2000 | - 1 5 3 2 9 3 | 06/06/00 | JAPAN | | | |
| | 11 | - 1 1 4 5 9 3 | 04/27/99 | JAPAN | | | |
| | 2002 | - 2 7 3 4 7 1 | 09/24/02 | JAPAN | | | |
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| | 9 | - 2 3 4 4 9 3 | 09/09/97 | JAPAN | | | |
| | 2001 | - 2 6 9 6 9 9 | 10/02/01 | JAPAN | | | |

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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|---|--|
| 1 | English Language Abstract of JP 2000-153293. |
| 2 | English Language Abstract of JP 11-114593. |
| 3 | English Language Abstract of JP 2002-273471. |
| 4 | English Language Abstract of JP 2000-254687. |
| 5 | English Language Abstract of JP 2001-096130. |
| 6 | English Language Abstract of JP 9-234493. |
| 7 | English Language Abstract of JP 2001-269699. |
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EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.